



CSD *News Release*

March 14, 2002

MIAM-DADE COUNTY RECOGNIZES 'TAXICAB CHAUFFEUR OF FOURTH QUARTER'

Miami-Dade's Board of County Commissioners this morning made awards to five taxicab drivers for exemplary service and named one of them the Chauffeur of the 4th Quarter for 2001, at a ceremony held in the Commission Chambers at the Stephen P. Clark Government Center, in downtown Miami.

The awards are part of the Taxicab Chauffeur Incentive Program (TCIP), an effort by the Board of County Commissioners and the Consumer Services Department (CSD) to improve customer service in the taxicab industry by recognizing and rewarding taxicab drivers for outstanding service to tourists, visitors and residents of Miami-Dade County.

The Chauffeur of the 4th Quarter award went to Christian Andre Joseph, a driver with the Prestige Taxi Inc. since 1993.

The award to Mr. Joseph resulted from an incident last October when a passenger inadvertently left a bag containing expensive jewelry in his cab. On discovering the bag Mr. Joseph returned it to the passenger.

"I bless his honesty," the passenger said in a letter to CSD praising Mr. Joseph, and adding that not only was he honest, but also "courteous."

At this morning's award ceremony he also received the praise and thanks of District 3 Miami-Dade County Commissioner, Dr. Barbara M. Carey-Shuler, the sponsor of the TCIP.

Mr. Joseph, who received two nominations for the Chauffeur of the Quarter Award, was presented with a plaque and a check for \$500 for winning, as well as an additional \$50 for his second nomination.

The four other drivers, St. Facil Agenord, Jose Lorenzo, Iwan Pengel and Muhammad Rashid, each received a certificate and a \$50 nominee's cash award.

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The Miami Dade Consumer Services Department is an agency of Miami-Dade County government that protects consumers through complaint mediation, business regulation, and consumer education. The Department operates the Consumer Hotline (305) 375-3677, a central telephone number for consumer complaints and information.